

 on the deck has been redesigned to include a downward rotational limiter (i.e., the tab 68) to limit downward rotation of the draft rod relative to the deck in direction E. The embodiment shown also has a redesigned draft rod with an longitudinal movement limiter (i.e., the enlarged section 46) for limiting the longitudinal movement of the draft rod through the hole 62 in the member 60 in direction C. Therefore, with the redesigned draft rod 40 and draft rod mounting section 64 on the deck 20, there is no longer a need for additional components to be attached to the frame for limiting upward vertical movement of the deck. This feature is accomplished by the new redesigned draft rods and redesigned draft rod mounting sections on the deck. The reduction in the number of parts decreases cost associated with the manufacture of those parts, their storage, and their assembly with the lawn mower.

---

REMARKS

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121 (as amended on 11/7/2000) the specification replacement paragraph(s) above is/are shown on separate page(s), in the attached Appendix, marked up to show all the changes relative to the previous version of that paragraph.

The specification has been amended above to overcome the examiner's objection.

Claims 1-9 and 19-20 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Seegert (US 5937625). Claims 10-18 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over